

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 188485
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R 101554Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
AMEMBASSY SUVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188485

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PP

SUBJECT: SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM IN PORT MORESBY

1. THE NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE (NMFS), NOAA,
COMMERCE WOULD APPRECIATE AS DETAILED A REVIEW OF THE
SUBJECT MEETING AS POSSIBLE. OF SPECIAL INTEREST ARE
THE ARRANGEMENTS WHICH THE MEMBER COUNTRIES HAVE MADE
TO MANAGE THE RESOURCES AND ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS
ON FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC FISHERMEN IN THE CURRENT OR
FUTURE 200-MILE ZONES. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL 2. DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF FISHERIES
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PAGE 02 STATE 188485

RESEARCH EGGLESTON CONFIRMED NEW ZEALAND'S SENSITIVITY
CONCERNING SOVIET FISHERY INITIATIVES WITH THE FIJI,
TONGA AND W. SAMOAN GOVERNMENTS AND STATED HIS BELIEF
THAT AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND WILL DO THEIR UTMOST
TO KEEP THE SOVIET FISHING FLEETS OUT OF THOSE WATERS
EVEN THOUGH NEW ZEALAND ITSELF WILL MOST LIKELY
ALLOW THE SOVIETS TO FISH INSIDE ITS 200-MILE ZONE.

THE NEW ZEALANDERS, HOWEVER, WILL TRY TO GET SOME
TRADE CONCESSIONS FROM THE SOVIETS IN RETURN, A POLICY
NOT UNLIKE THE ONE NEW ZEALAND CURRENTLY PURSUES VIS
A VIS JAPAN. END CONFIDENTIAL

BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 3. DURING A RECENT MEETING
BETWEEN NMFS OFFICIALS AND THE NEW ZEALAND MINISTER
OF FISHERIES, J. BOLGER, THE LATTER STATED THAT NEW
ZEALAND IS VITALLY INTERESTED IN THE PACIFIC FORUM
COUNTRIES AND IS TRYING TO COORDINATE WITH AUSTRALIA
MEASURES WHICH COULD BE TAKEN TO HELP THE PACIFIC
FORUM NATIONS POLICE THEIR 200-MILE ZONES. BOLGER,
HOWEVER, ALSO OPINIONED THAT THE COOPERATIVE
RELATIONS BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA ON THE
SUBJECT OF POLICING THE 200-MILE ZONE IS NOT THE MOST
SUCCESSFUL AND THAT MORE COULD BE DONE TO IMPROVE
COOPERATION ON THIS ISSUE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

4. FOR WELLINGTON AND CANBERRA ONLY: NMFS WOULD
APPRECIATE ANY CLIPPINGS FROM LOCAL NEWSPAPERS ON
THE SUBJECT MEETING AND ANY OTHER READILY AVAILABLE
INFORMATION. CHRISTOPHER

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